

Lens/Frame Assembly for Swimming Goggles

Background of the Invention

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a lens/frame assembly for swimming goggles with improved stability and integrity.

2. Description of the Related Art

Figs. 10 and 12 of the drawings illustrate a pair of conventional swimming goggles comprising a frame 2', two lenses 1', two padding members 3', and a head straps 4'. Each lens 1' is made of rigid material and comprises two slots 11'. The frame 2' is also made of rigid material and comprises a bridge 21' in a middle thereof and two lens-receiving holes 22' on both sides of the bridge 21' for receiving the lenses 1'. An inner periphery defining each lens-receiving hole 22' has two engaging members 23' for engaging with the slots 11' of the respective lens 1'. The frame 2' further comprises two engaging portions 24' at two sides thereof for engaging with the ends of the head strap 4'. In assembly, each lens 1' is forcibly inserted into the respective lens-receiving hole 22' until the slots 11' are engaged with the engaging members 23'. Nevertheless, although the frame 2' is made of rigid material to prevent deformation and the slots 11' are engaged with the engaging members 23', the lenses 1' are still slightly movable after assembly while the slots 11' and the engaging members 23' are exposed and thus adversely affect the overall aesthetically pleasing effect.

Summary of the Invention

An object of the present invention is to provide a lens/frame assembly for swimming goggles with improved stability and integrity.

1 In accordance with an aspect of the invention, a lens/frame assembly for
2 swimming goggles comprises a frame made of rigid material with slight
3 flexibility, two lens received in a lens-holding compartment of the frame, and a
4 connecting block. The lens-holding compartment has a bridge portion in a
5 middle thereof. A connecting block is securely received in the bridge portion
6 of the lens-holding compartment and securely mounted to the frame to thereby
7 securely retain the lenses in place.

8 In accordance with another aspect of the invention, a pair of swimming
9 goggles is provided and comprises a frame made of rigid material with slight
10 flexibility, a connecting block, two lenses received in a lens-holding
11 compartment of the frame, a padding member engaged with the lenses, and a
12 head strap having two ends attached to two sides of the frame. The
13 lens-holding compartment has a bridge portion in a middle thereof. Each lens
14 includes a flange for engaging with the lens-holding compartment. The
15 connecting block is securely received in the bridge portion of the lens-holding
16 compartment and securely mounted to the frame. The bridge portion of the
17 frame is pullable to allow insertion of the lenses into the lens-holding
18 compartment and to allow engagement of the flange of each said lens with the
19 lens-holding compartment. The flange of each lens is tightly received in the
20 lens-holding compartment of the frame.

21 In an embodiment of the invention, the bridge portion of the frame
22 comprises two engaging pieces respectively formed on an upper wall and a
23 lower wall of the bridge portion. Each engaging piece includes an engaging
24 hole. The connecting block comprises two pegs each having a snapping head
25 having a diameter slightly greater than an inner diameter of an associated one
26 of the engaging holes. The snapping head is compressed inward when it is

1 passing through the associated one of the engaging holes. The snapping head
2 restores its shape after it has passed through the associated one of the engaging
3 holes. A connecting plate may be securely attached between the lenses.

4 In another embodiment of the invention, a connecting plate is securely
5 attached between the lenses and comprises two first engaging holes. The
6 bridge portion of the frame comprises two engaging pieces respectively
7 formed on an upper wall and a lower wall of the bridge portion. Each engaging
8 piece includes a second engaging hole. The connecting block comprises two
9 pegs each having a snapping head having a diameter slightly greater than an
10 inner diameter of an associated one of the first engaging holes. The snapping
11 head is compressed inward when it is passing through an associated one of the
12 second engaging holes and the associated one of the first engaging holes. The
13 snapping head restores its shape after it has passed through the associated one
14 of the first engaging holes.

15 In a further embodiment of the invention, a connecting plate is securely
16 attached between the lenses and comprises a first engaging hole. The bridge
17 portion of the frame comprises a front engaging piece and a rear engaging
18 piece respectively formed on a lower wall and an upper wall of the bridge
19 portion. The front engaging piece and the rear engaging piece include aligned
20 second engaging holes. The connecting block comprises a peg having a
21 snapping head having a diameter slightly greater than an inner diameter of the
22 first engaging hole of the connecting plate. The snapping head is compressed
23 inward when it is passing through the aligned second engaging holes and the
24 first engaging hole. The snapping head restores its shape after it has passed
25 through the first engaging hole of the connecting plate.

1 In still another embodiment of the invention, a connecting plate is securely
2 attached between the lenses and comprises two first engaging holes. The
3 bridge portion of the frame comprises two engaging pieces respectively
4 formed on an upper wall and a lower wall of the bridge portion. Each engaging
5 piece includes a second engaging hole. The connecting block comprises two
6 pegs, each peg being extended through an associated one of the second
7 engaging holes and then engaged in an associated one of the first engaging
8 holes.

9 In yet another embodiment of the invention, a connecting plate is securely
10 attached between the lenses and comprises two first engaging holes. The
11 bridge portion of the frame comprises two engaging pieces respectively
12 formed on an upper wall and a lower wall of the bridge portion. Each engaging
13 piece includes a second engaging hole. The connecting plate comprises two
14 pegs, each peg being extended through an associated one of the second
15 engaging holes and then engaged in an associated one of the first engaging
16 holes.

17 In still another embodiment of the invention, the bridge portion of the
18 frame comprises two engaging pieces respectively formed on an upper wall
19 and a lower wall of the bridge portion. Each engaging piece includes a peg.
20 The connecting block comprises two engaging holes. Each peg is extended
21 through an associated one of the engaging holes of the connecting plate. A
22 connecting plate may be securely attached between the lenses.

23 Other objects, advantages, and novel features of the invention will become
24 more apparent from the following detailed description when taken in
25 conjunction with the accompanying drawings.
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1 **Brief Description of the Drawings**

2 Fig. 1 is an exploded perspective view of a pair of swimming goggles in
3 accordance with the present invention.

4 Fig. 2 is a front view illustrating an assembly procedure of the pair of
5 swimming goggles in accordance with the present invention.

6 Fig. 3 is a front view of the pair of swimming goggles in accordance with
7 the present invention.

8 Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the pair of swimming goggles in accordance
9 with the present invention.

10 Fig. 5 is a partial view, partly exploded, of the pair of swimming goggles
11 in accordance with the present invention.

12 Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5, illustrating a modified embodiment of the
13 invention.

14 Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 5, illustrating another modified embodiment
15 of the invention.

16 Fig. 8 is a similar to Fig. 5, illustrating a further modified embodiment of
17 the invention.

18 Fig. 9 is a similar to Fig. 5, illustrating still another modified embodiment
19 of the invention.

20 Fig. 10 is a similar to Fig. 5, illustrating yet another modified embodiment
21 of the invention.

22 Fig. 11 is an exploded perspective view of a pair of conventional
23 swimming goggles.

24 Fig. 12 is a perspective view of the pair of conventional swimming
25 goggles in Fig. 11.

1 **Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments**

2 Referring to Figs. 1 through 4, a pair of swimming goggles in accordance
3 with the present invention generally includes a frame 2, two lenses 1, a
4 padding member 4, and a head strap 5. Each lens 1 comprises a flange 11 on
5 an outer periphery thereof for engaging with the frame 2 and the padding
6 member 4. A connecting plate 12 may be mounted between the lenses 1 and
7 comprises at least one engaging hole 121 (two in this embodiment), which will
8 be described later.

9 The frame 2 is made of rigid material with slight flexibility and comprises
10 a lens-holding compartment 21 having a bridge portion 22 in a middle thereof.
11 The bridge portion 22 has at least one engaging piece 221 formed thereon. In
12 this embodiment, an engaging piece 221 is formed on each of an upper wall
13 and a lower wall of the bridge portion 22 and has an engaging hole 222, which
14 will be described later. A connecting block 3 is mounted to the bridge portion
15 22 and comprises two pegs 31 that respectively extend through the engaging
16 holes 222 of the engaging pieces 221 and the engaging holes 121 of the
17 connecting plate 12.

18 In assembly, the lenses 1 are engaged with the padding member 4, and the
19 frame 2 is pulled outward at the middle thereof so as to allow insertion of the
20 flanges 11 of the lenses 1 into the lens-holding compartment 21, as shown in
21 Fig. 2. The pegs 31 of the connecting block 3 are extended through the
22 engaging holes 222 of the engaging pieces 221 and the engaging holes 121 of
23 the connecting plate 12. Thus, the lens-receiving compartment 21 of the frame
24 2 is tightly engaged with the flanges 11 of the lenses 1, as the pegs 31 of the
25 connecting block 3 are force-fitted in the engaging holes 222 of the engaging
26 pieces 221 and the engaging holes 121 of the connecting plate 12. As a result,

1 the lenses 1 are less likely to disengage from the frame 2 after assembly. In
2 addition, the connecting block 3 is completely received in the frame 2 and thus
3 provides an aesthetically pleasing effect. Figs. 3 through 5 respectively show a
4 front view, perspective view, and sectional view of the pair of swimming
5 goggles after assembly.

6 In a modified embodiment shown in Fig. 6, each peg 31 of the connecting
7 block 3 includes a resilient snapping head 311 having a diameter slightly
8 greater than an inner diameter of an associated one of the engaging holes 121.
9 The snapping head 311 is compressed inward when it is passing through the
10 engaging hole 222 of the respective engaging piece 221 and the respective
11 engaging hole 121 of the connecting plate 12. The snapping head 311 restores
12 its shape after it has passed through the respective engaging hole 121 of the
13 connecting plate 12. Thus, disengagement of the peg 31 of the connecting
14 block 3 is prevented.

15 Fig. 7 illustrates another modified embodiment of the invention, wherein
16 each peg (now designated by 32) has a snapping head 322 having a diameter
17 slightly greater than an inner diameter of an associated one of the engaging
18 holes 222. The snapping head 322 is compressed inward when it is passing
19 through the engaging hole 222 of the respective engaging piece 221. The
20 snapping head 322 restores its shape after it has passed through the engaging
21 hole 222 of the respective engaging piece 221. Thus, disengagement of the peg
22 31 of the connecting block 3 is prevented. The engaging holes 121 in the
23 connecting plate 12 are omitted.

24 Fig. 8 illustrates a further modified embodiment of the invention, wherein
25 the bridge portion 22 of the frame 2 comprises a front engaging piece 223
26 extending upward from a lower wall of the bridge portion 22 and a rear

engaging piece 223 extending downward from an upper wall of the bridge portion 22. The connecting block 3 comprises a peg 33 having a snapping head 332 having a diameter slightly greater than an inner diameter of the engaging hole 122 of the connecting plate 12. The snapping head 332 is compressed inward when it is passing through the engaging hole 224 in each respective engaging piece 223, 224 and the engaging hole 122 of the connecting plate 12. The snapping head 332 restores its shape after it has passed through the engaging hole 122 of the connecting plate 12. Thus, disengagement of the peg 31 of the connecting block 3 is prevented.

It is noted that the connecting plate 12 can be omitted. The lenses 1 are retained in the frame 2 by the connecting block 3. Alternatively, the connecting block 3 may include at least one engaging hole, and the connecting plate 12 may include at least one peg that passes through the respective engaging hole(s) in the engaging piece(s) of the frame 2. Fig. 9 illustrates still another modified embodiment of the invention, wherein the connecting block 3 has two engaging holes 34 and the connecting plate 12 has two pegs 123. Each peg 123 is passed through the engaging hole 222 of the respective engaging piece 221 of the bridge portion 22 and securely engaged in the respective engaging hole 34 of the connecting block 3.

Fig. 10 illustrates yet another modified embodiment of the invention, wherein each engaging piece 221 of the bridge portion 22 includes a peg 225, and the connecting block 3 includes two engaging holes 35 for receiving the pegs 225.

Although the invention has been explained in relation to its preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that many other possible modifications and

1 variations can be made without departing from the scope of the invention as
 2 hereinafter claimed.

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